

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Hubis
Application No.: 10/714,031 Group No.: 2144
Filed: 14 November 2003 Examiner: G. Bengzon
For: METHODS AND STRUCTURES FOR A CACHING TO ROUTER IN ISCSI
STORAGE SYSTEMS

TELEPHONE INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicant submits this telephone interview summary to meet the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.133(b), and according to the requirements listed in MPEP § 713.04.

Date/Type of Interview: telephone interview conducted on 25 January 2008

Examiner: G. Bengzon

Name of Applicant's attorney: D. Fishman

Exhibits shown or demonstrations conducted: None

Claims discussed: 1

Prior art discussed: Mullendore and Liu

General thrust of Examiner's arguments: see below

General thrust of Applicant's arguments: see below

Agreement reached and general nature of the agreement: see below

Proposed amendments: see below

Other pertinent matters:

Applicant's undersigned attorney and the Examiner discussed all outstanding rejections focusing in particular on the 35 U.S.C. 103 rejection applied to independent claims 1, 11, 15, and 18. Applicant's undersigned attorney suggested that none of the art of record teaches or reasonably suggests the recited caching features within a network appliance or iSCSI router.

The Examiner suggests that Mullendore is sufficient to show a buffer (called a "cache" in Mullendore) and that even if Mullendore, per se, does not teach the recited

functions of the cache for satisfying read requests without forwarding a block request through the router, then well known (essentially admitted art) is sufficient for that purpose.

Applicant's respond that use of a cache in other contexts to speed read request processing is generally known in the art. For example, processors and storage devices/systems use such caching techniques. However, such caching is not known in the art of network routers and in particular iSCSI routers. Rather, a router's intended purpose is to pass an exchange from a source device to a destination device (generally based on addressing information provided). Network/iSCSI routers do not at present monitor or process the content of such exchanges to determine if an exchange represents a "read" request from a first device to request data from a second device. Only the enhanced router processing of this invention can process the read request from the cache memory without ever forwarding the exchange to the destination device.

No agreement was reached on any claims or the general substance of the discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 25 January 2007

/Daniel N. Fishman/

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